

**SUMMARY NOTES**  
**NATIONAL LIAISON COMMITTEE**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018**  
Hilton Garden Inn

**CO-CHAIR:**

Dr. Kevin Glasgow	Consumer Representative, Board of Directors
Mr. David Lehberg	Consumer Representative, Board of Directors

**PRESENT:**

Ms. Donna Hartlen	GBS / CIDP Foundation of Canada
Ms. Josie Sirna	Thalassemia Foundation of Canada
Ms. Whitney Goulstone	Canadian Immunodeficiencies Patient Organization
Mr. Steve Raper	Regional Liaison Committee, BC & Yukon Co-Chair
Ms. Aida Fernandes	IMAGINE SPOR
Mr. David Page	Canadian Hemophilia Society
Ms. Denise Evanovitch	Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine
Ms. Elizabeth Myles	Kidney Foundation of Canada
Ms. Ashley Oakes	Aplastic Anemia and Myelodysplasia Association of Canada
Ms. Esther Green	Canadian Partnership Against Cancer
Mr. Richard Thompson	Immunodeficiency Canada
Mr. John Thomas	Regional Liaison Committee, Ontario and Nunavut (MNN)
Mr. Willy Van Klooster	Regional Liaison Committee, Ontario and Nunavut (SCO)
Dr. Calvino Cheng	Nova Scotia Health Authority
Ms. Stephanie Perilli	Regional Liaison Committee, Prairie and Northwest Territories
Dr. Isra Levy	Vice President, Medical Affairs and Innovation
Mr. Pierre Cyr	Director, Board and Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Blood Services
Ms. Steph Kelly	Senior Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Blood Services
Mr. Chris Brennan	Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Blood Services
Mr. Don Lapierre	Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Canadian Blood Services
Ms. Christine Mastroianni	Senior Admin, Canadian Blood Services

**GUESTS:**

Mr. Fraser Eaton	Regional Liaison Committee, Atlantic Co-Chair
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**PRESENTERS:**

Mr. Peter Saunders	Associate Director, National Operations, Plasma Protein Products
Dr. Mindy Goldman	Medical Director, Donor and Clinical Services
Dr. Sophie Chargé	Associate Director, Knowledge Mobilization and Education
Dr. Chantale Pambrun	Director, Centre for Innovation
Dr. Sheila O'Brien	Associate Director, Epidemiology and Surveillance
Ms. Sheila Ward	Director, International Collaboration and Corporate Secretariat
Dr. Kathryn Webert	Director, Medical Utilization

**REGRETS:**

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Ms. Heather Mingo  
Mr. John Andruschak  
Mr. Jean-Paul Bédard

Society for the Advancement of Blood Management  
HeathCareCAN  
Vice President, Public Affairs, Canadian Blood Services

**OPENING REMARKS**

Pierre Cyr welcomed everyone to Ottawa, and passed along regrets from Jean-Paul who was unable to attend the meeting that day. He then introduced Dr. Kevin Glasgow and welcomed new committee co-chair David Lehberg to the National Liaison Committee.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Agenda was reviewed. Denise Evanovitch approved the motion to approve, John Thomas seconded. All members in favour.

**REVIEW OF SUMMARY NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2017**

Summary notes were reviewed, no changes or edits were required.  
Josie Sirna approved the motion. Dr. Calvino Cheng seconded. All members in favour.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Kevin Glasgow introduced new Canadian Blood Services' Vice President, Medical Affairs and Innovation Dr. Isra Levy. Roundtable introductions of all members followed.

**BOARD REPORT**

Dr. Glasgow welcomed Fraser Eaton, new candidate for the co-chair position with the Atlantic Regional Liaison Committee as a guest, and thanked Cal Taylor for his service in that role. He also congratulated Donna Hartlen, Executive Director of the Guillain-Barre Syndrome / Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy Foundation of Canada, as well as Elizabeth Myles, National Executive Director of the Kidney Foundation of Canada on their appointments as full committee members.

Dr. Glasgow then updated the members on key matters the board has been focusing on since the NLC last met in September, including the appointment of several new board members, including new Board Chair Mel Cappe.

Key areas of focus included the ongoing work on Canadian Blood Services' plasma strategy, which remains a central area of focus for the organization. The board is also heavily involved in the shaping of the corporate strategic plan. All of the inputs that have been gathered from stakeholders have been synthesized, and the board is working closely with the executive management team to flesh out that plan.

Changes in the political realm require monitoring, as they are impactful on the organization. We continue to engage with those key players.

**PLASMA PROTEIN PRODUCT RFP RESULTS AND TRANSITION UPDATE**

Peter Saunders presented a detailed overview of the process that was undertaken around the recently completed RFP for plasma protein products, including an exploration of the current transition work currently underway. As several members of the NLC were involved in that process, they were invited to share their perspective on the process itself, and their participation in it.

Members of the committee were then divided into three groups, which took part in an exercise led by Peter Saunders, Stephanie Kelly, and Dr. Kathryn Webert to gather their input on two key questions:

- Moving forward, what recommendations do you have on the best way to involve stakeholders?
- In cases where there is disagreement, how do we ensure we continue to work together effectively?

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A detailed consultation report has been prepared, and will be shared with participants.

**MSM DEFERRAL POLICY UPDATE AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

A cross-divisional panel from Canadian Blood Services convened to update the NLC on the latest work underway to evolve the men who have sex with men deferral policy, and about some potential future directions based on research initiatives currently underway. Panelists included Don Lapierre, Dr. Mindy Goldman, Dr. Chantale Pambrun and Dr. Sophie Chargé.

Members were updated on the research agenda, what topics were being explored and by whom, and project timelines. The group was also updated on what Canadian Blood Services has learned since moving to a 12-month deferral, how research will be incorporated into the work moving forward, and what has happened with MSM deferrals internationally in recent months.

Finally, a discussion was had about the stakeholder engagement initiatives that have been carried out and that are planned for coming months to further inform this policy.

The group then engaged in a wide-ranging discussion on the above topics.

*ACTION: Continue to update NLC  
on developments around this policy,  
engage membership where  
appropriate*

**HEPATITIS E RISK-BASED DECISION MAKING**

Dr. Sheila O'Brien engaged the committee in a discussion around Hepatitis E, and how blood systems around the world are monitoring and responding to the virus.

She outlined how Canadian Blood Services' risk-based decision-making model would be utilized in considering the options and convened a discussion with NLC members about which groups should be engaged in the process.

That discussion was captured and shared with the project team.

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

David Lehberg invited members to share their key upcoming events and opportunities for collaboration.

Specific opportunities were captured and will be followed up on by the appropriate staff.

**CLOSE**

Before closing the meeting, Dr. Kevin Glasgow paid tribute to longtime NLC member John Thomas, who was attending his final meeting. John was presented with a small token of appreciation for his service to the committee.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.**